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Supply of electricity to certain villages in Thiruvadanai taluk, Ramanathapuram district.

* 1057 *Q.*—SRI P. CHELLATHURAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to supply electricity to Sarugani, Thiruvadanai, Thondi and Rajasingamangalam villages in Thiruvadanai taluk, Ramanathapuram district; and if so, when?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The villages referred to are in the area of supply of the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited. The feasibility of supply of electricity to the villages was investigated by the licensee as early as 1947, but it was found unremunerative to him. The position has been re-examined by the licensee recently and he has reported that the load prospects in the area have not improved even now, so as to yield a reasonable return on the estimated cost of Rs. 3·7 lakhs for the extension. Extension of supply of electricity to the villages is, therefore, not feasible at present."

Appointment of the Labour Inspectors for the enforcement of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act.

* 1058 *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Labour Inspectors appointed to enforce the Madras Shops and Establishments Act in the State; and

(*b*) the annual cost to the State in enforcing the Act?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There are 140 Assistant Inspectors of Labour in the State for the purpose.

" (*b*) Rs. 5,84,000 approximately."

Stalls opened by the Agriculture and Industries Departments in the Exhibition held in Madras in 1952.

* 1059 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of stalls opened by the Department of Agriculture and Industries in the Exhibition held in Madras in 1952;

(*b*) the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The number of stalls taken by the Agricultural Department and the Industries Department in the All India Khadi, Swadeshi and Industrial Exhibition held at Teynampet, Madras, from 18th December 1952 to 8th February 1953 was 18 and 32 respectively.

" (*b*) The expenditure incurred by the Agricultural Department by participation in this Exhibiton was Rs. 8,858–4–6. The Industries Department incurred an expenditure of Rs. 12,115–9–0."

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SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, did the Government make any income out of this Exhibition and what is the useful purpose for which these stalls were taken and what is the net result by way of beneficial work done by the Department."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I have no doubt that the hon. Member appreciates the need for propogating the activities of the Agricultural Department and the Industries Department. That was the purpose served, Sir, on account of the expenditure incurred for taking these stalls in the Exhibition."

Slums on Government lands alienated to the Director of Harijan Welfare.

* 1060 Q.—SRI D. DASARATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of slums on Government land that were alienated to the Director of Harijan Welfare for improvement and for assignment as house sites to the respective occupiers; and

(*b*) whether slums on the lands, alienated to the Corporation of Madras, have been alienated to the Director of Harijan Welfare likewise for the above purposes?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—
" (*a*) An extent of Caw. 42–18–394 square feet of land in the city and an extent of 14·27 acres in the extended areas of the City were transferred to the Harijan Welfare Department for being assigned as house-sites.

" (*b*) No."

10 a.m. SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" May I know how many acres constitute one *kani*? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—
" 1-1/3 acres, Sir."

Export of " Pambukkalaver " herb.

* 1061 Q.—SRI P. JEEVANANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a herb by name " Pambukkalaver " is being exported from the Tuticorin Port to Britain, U.S.A., and Germany;

(*b*) if so, the quantity so exported; and

(*c*) the medicinal and scientific value of the herb?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) About 53 tons during 1953–54.

" (*c*) The roots of the herb are used in India in preparation of medicines for reducing blood pressure. The crude drug was tested about 25 years ago in the General Hospital,